Button Monitor Version 4.05 release note (June 01, 2011)

New 4.05 features: This version was tested on XP/XPe/Windows 7/WES7.

1. Web update checks for new Button Monitor version automatically, or can check update manually.

2. Add OSD (On Screen Display) feature for buttons' actions and volume display.

3. Added new power saving function and provided new slideshow feature (Digital photo frame, DPF) when power saving function is enabled and triggered.   DPF also provides two different layouts (Full screen or multi-information slideshow) with background audio (MP3) playback.

    DPF features:

    - ✓ Detect screen resolution automatically and select a suitable layout for users.
    - ✓ All photos / songs included in sub-directories will be identified as soon as you choose a parent directory.
    - ✓ Multi-information includes a photo slideshow, weather, real-time news ticker, calendar and clock information.
    - ✓ Photos and songs can be played randomly.
    - ✓ Volume of background music can be adjustable by using 3 capacitive buttons.
    - ✓ Customize background color/image in multi-information mode (new).

Detail operation instructions:

1. <u>Main screen *changed* since version 3.01:</u>

    ■ Newly added "Check available update on startup" option in "Options" tab.   Check this to automatically update.
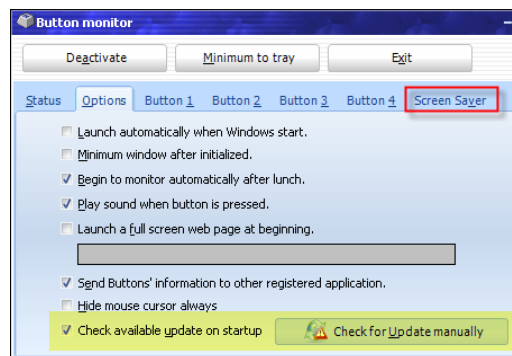

Figure 1

    ■ Added "Check for Update manually" button in "Options" tab. (See *figure 1*.)

    ■ Added "Screen Saver" tab, and moved "Power saving" from "Options" tab to this new tab. (fig 1.)

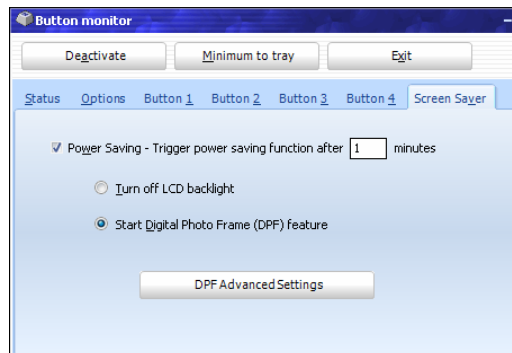   ■ Added two radio buttons to select power saving method.

Figure 2

    ■ Added "DPF Advanced Settings" button to launch DPF setting window. (See *figure 2*.)

2. <u>Automatic Update function:</u>

    A. If the auto-check option is on, Button Monitor will check new version from server, and shows a small message window at bottom-right of screen and disappears when check is done.
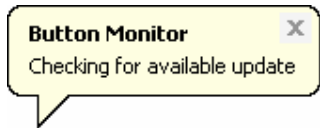
Figure 3

B. If new version is found, an information window pops up to show the new version availability
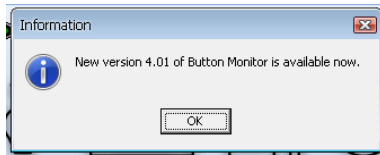

Figure 4

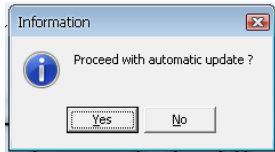C. Download window pops up, press "Yes" to begin to download, or press "No" to skip.

Figure 5

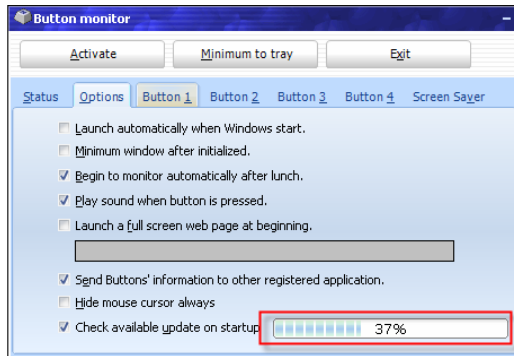D. Once you choose "Yes", click on "Options" tab to see progress bar as shown below (fig 6)

Figure 6

E. Button Monitor will be closed and restarted again after new program is updated.

3. Manual Update function:

A. Click on "Check for Update manually" button in "Options" tab to check new version by hand, if new version was found, all procedures act like Automatic Update feature (see *Figure 4~6*), if the launched version is the latest one, you will see this popup message.
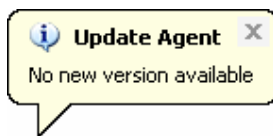

Figure 7

B. If system is connected to Internet, but server was down or a problem occurred, message will appear at the buttom-right corner.
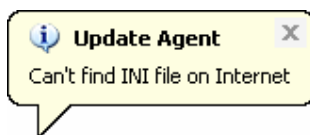

Figure 8

C. If the system didn't connect to Internet, then the update request will be ignored.

4. How to configure DPF feature:

A. Enable "Power saving" feature and select "Start Digital Photo Frame (DPF) feature" in Figure 2, then Click "DPF

Advanced Settings" button for more DPF settings.

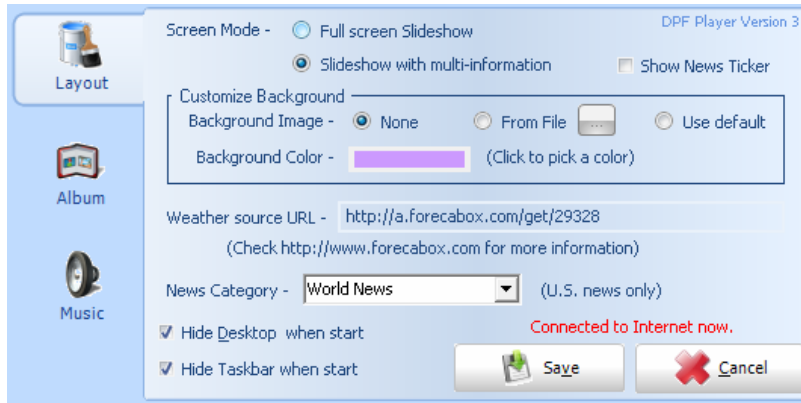B. There're three tabs in DPF setting window, includes Layout, Album and Music tab.

Figure 9

C. Adjustable parameters in "Layout" tab (*Fig 9*):

Screen Mode – Provides two different screen layouts – "Full screen slideshow" (Default) and "Slideshow with multi-information", see layout example for each different resolution in *Table 1*.

> *Note. Weather forecast and news ticker shows only if the unit is connected to Internet.*

Show News Ticker – To speed-up loading time of DPF, disable news ticker with "Slideshow with multi-information".

> *Note. If you turn on news ticker feature, when slideshow started, the screen might be frozen and hung for few*
> *seconds because Adobe Flash player is busy while loading news information.*

Customize Background – In "Slideshow with multi-information" mode, change DPF background style in three ways:

None: Background color is valid only when background image is disabled, user can change the default background color by clicking on the background color square to select a standard color (*Fig 10-1*), or Click on "More Color…" button to open Color Picker Window (*Fig 10-2*) to define a customize RGB color.
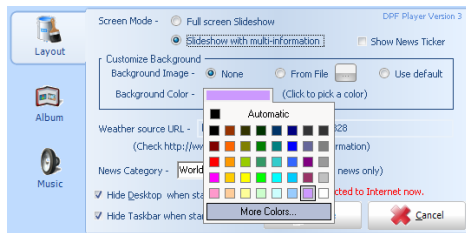

Figure 10-1

Figure 10-2

From File: Click on   button and navigate to the background image that you want to apply, the background image supports .BMP or .JPG file and it will be rescaled to fit the screen.

Use default: Button Monitor provides default background image for different resolutions.

Weather source URL – The weather URL in multi-information slideshow can be customized by navigating to FORECA (http://a.forecabox.com), create your location/style, then save / send the URL to your email to copy the URL here.

> *Note. To show weather forecast correctly, the size of forecast box must be exactly the same as we designed for each*
> *resolution, all forecast services are provided by FORECA and we don't take the responsibilities and duties for the contents*
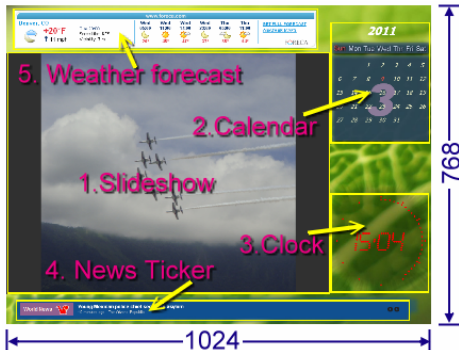> *of forecast. To learn how to configure Foreca weather forecast, read about Appendix A.*
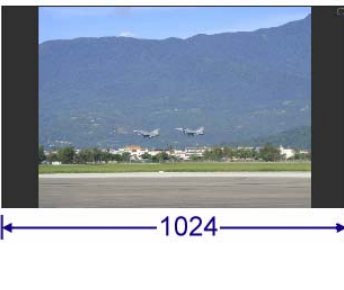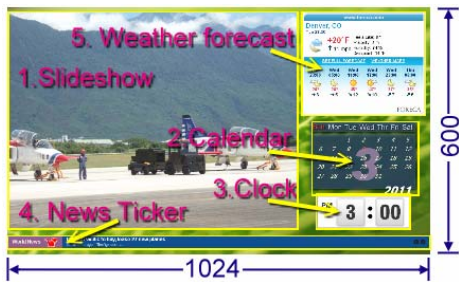
Screen Resolution	*800x600*	*1024x768*	*1024x600*
Size of ForecaBox	*720x90*	*720x90*	*300x250*

News Category – Select category of news to show in news ticker to display 50 articles in all sub-categories regarding the main category.   Main news source is US-based.

**Hide Desktop** – Check this option to hide desktop icons when slideshow is triggered.

Hide Taskbar – Check this option to hide taskbar when slideshow is triggered.

Mode / Resolution	Full screen slideshow	*Slideshow with Multi-information* *(Click on the hyperlink to see larger screenshot)*
800x600 (Pro-8/8A)		
1024x768 (Pro-15/15A)		
1024x600 (Pro-10A)		

D. Here are all adjustable parameters in "Album" tab (*Figure 11*):

Album location – Specify the main directory of album. You can click on   icon to calculate the file count of all supported type (JPEG, BMP, GIF, PNG) in this directory (includes all sub directories.)

Note. It doesn't support Unicode.

Photo Stay time (seconds) – The delay time between photos.   Default is 5 sec

Photo order – Specify the order of showing photos, sequential or randomize (Default).

Figure 11

Photo Scale - A command that indicates how the DPF function scales the slideshow content:

"None" = content is not scaled in any way. They're simply loaded as-is.

"Crop to Fit" = content will proportionally scale to fill content area of the component.

"Crop to Fit All" = content scales/crops same as "Crop to Fit" but entire area of the component is used.

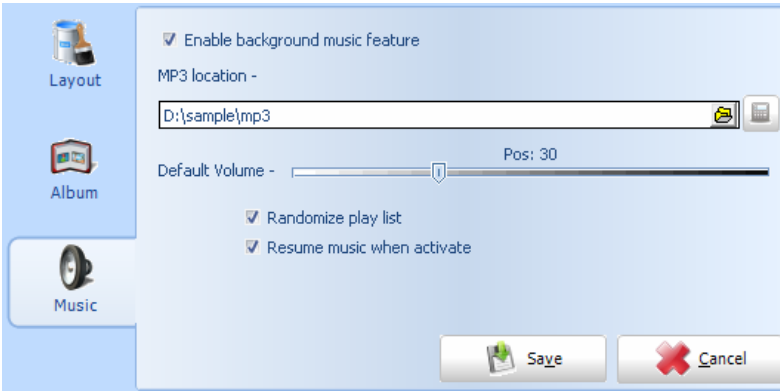E. Here are all adjustable parameters in "Music" tab (*Figure 12*):

Figure 12

Enable background music feature – Check to play MP3's while showing slideshow (default ON).

MP3 location – Specify directory of MP3 files. Click icon to calculate file count of .mp3 in this directory (incls sub dir)

Default Volume – Specify the default volume when playing music (default position is 50).

Randomize play list – Check this option to play music files randomly (default is on).

Resume music when activate – Check option for slideshow background music to play since last song/position (default is off).

> Note: MP3 playlist is generated when album list does, if files change in MP3 folder, re-generate list using button in "Album" tab.
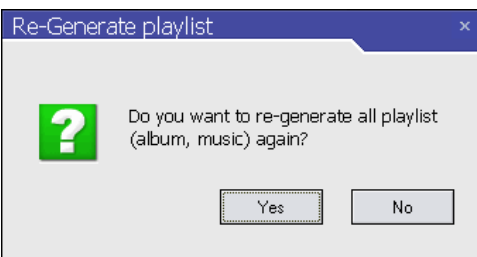
Figure 13

To wake up from power saving mode (background off or slideshow), simply touch the LCD screen or press button on bezel.

If slideshow background music feature is enabled, user can adjust volume during slideshow by pressing the following buttons on bezel, it will have OSD to show the current volume as well.

Enable/Disable audio mute	Decrease volume 1 degree	Increase volume 1 degree

Note. Volume control in DPF mode is activated only if the background MP3 is ON. When MP3 is OFF, pressing these buttons will wake unit

Appendix A. How to create a weather forecast URL for Button Monitor DPF feature by using Foreca

1. Open Internet browser and navigate to http://a.forecabox.com

Choose a location, unit and timeformat, then click on "Next>>" button.

2. Choose a customize size and layout, to fit in the slideshow window exactly, you have to choose correct size depends on your LCD resolution, and click on "Next>>" to continue.

3. Fill all fields (Name, email and website) and click on "Submit" so that the forecast URL will be sent to your mailbox.

4. Check your mailbox, and get the weather URL, this URL should be typed in the "Weather source URL" field in "DPF Advanced Settings" window of Button Monitor. (See Page 3.)

Appendix B.

How to get the Button Monitor?

What shall I do when Button Monitor is launched first time?

1. Download Button Monitor v4.03 and sample albums/mp3:

   Button Monitor v4.03: http://www.emink.com/files/ButtonMonitor-v4.03.zip (2.9MB)

   Sample Album/MP3: http://www.emink.com/files/DPF-samples.zip (20.6MB)

2. Extract and overwrite Button Monitor to c:\Button Monitor

   Extract all files in DPF-Sample.zip to c:\sample

3. If it runs under WES7 or Windows 7, locate to c:\Button Monitor, then right-Click on c:\Button Monitor\btnMonitor.exe, select "Properties"
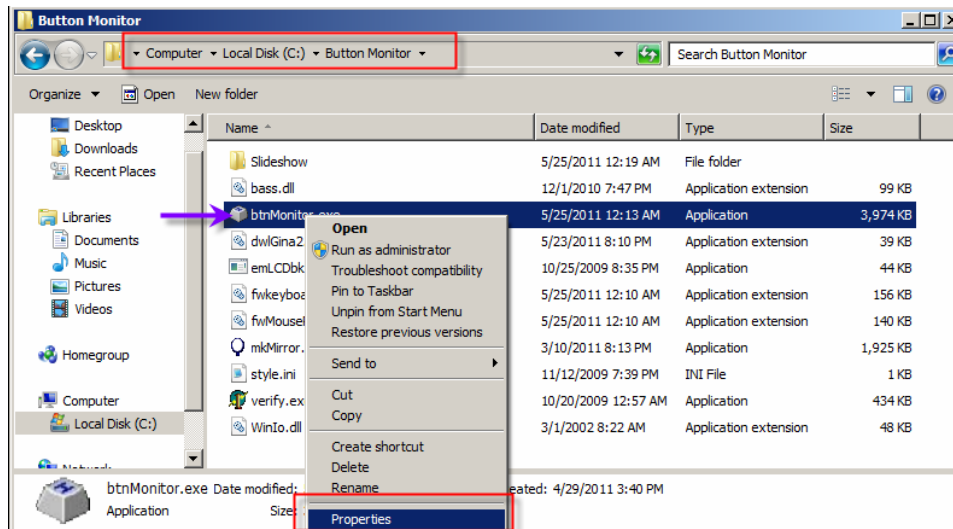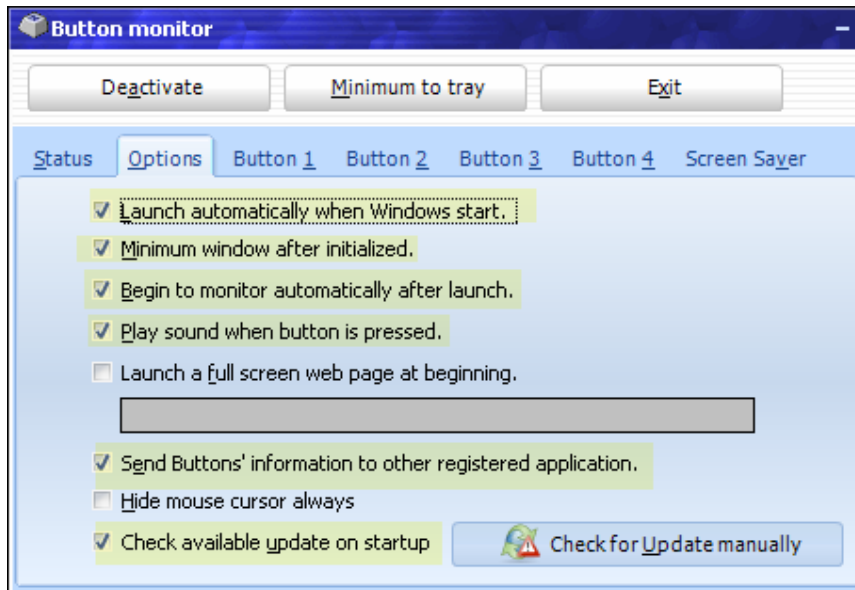

   Select "Compatibility" page, enable "Run this program in compatibility mode for" checkbox, then select "Windows XP (Service Pack 3)".
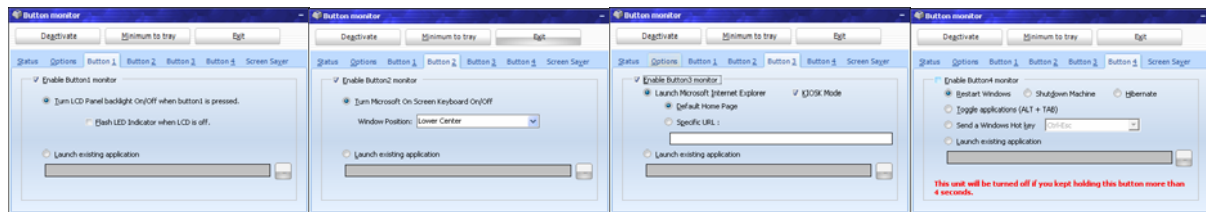
   Enable "Run this program as an administrator" checkbox, then click "OK" to save & close.
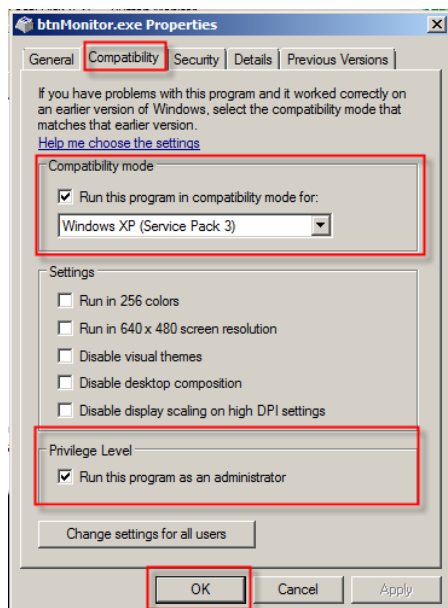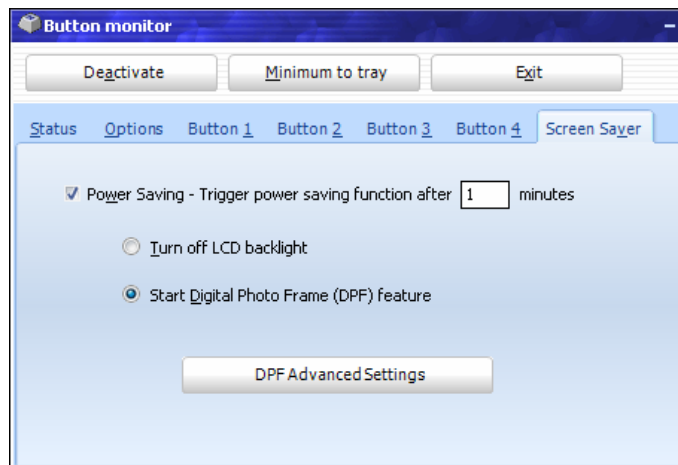

4. Launch c:\Button Monitor\btnMonitor.exe

5. These options can be checked so that Button Monitor can serve at background.
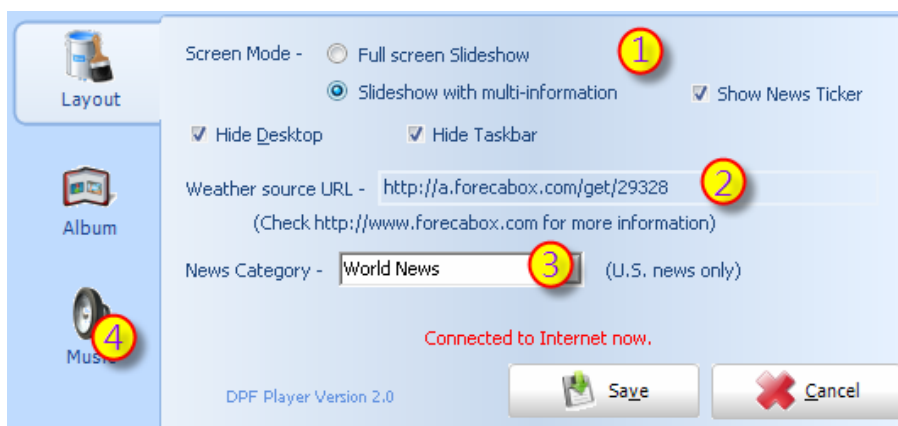
6. Click on "Check for Update manually" button to get the latest version of Button Monitor online.

7. Enable button1~4 function depends on your need.

8. **Adjust** power saving feature, choose what kind of power saving type.

If the power saving function is ON, and you want to use DPF feature, click on "DPF Advanced Settings".
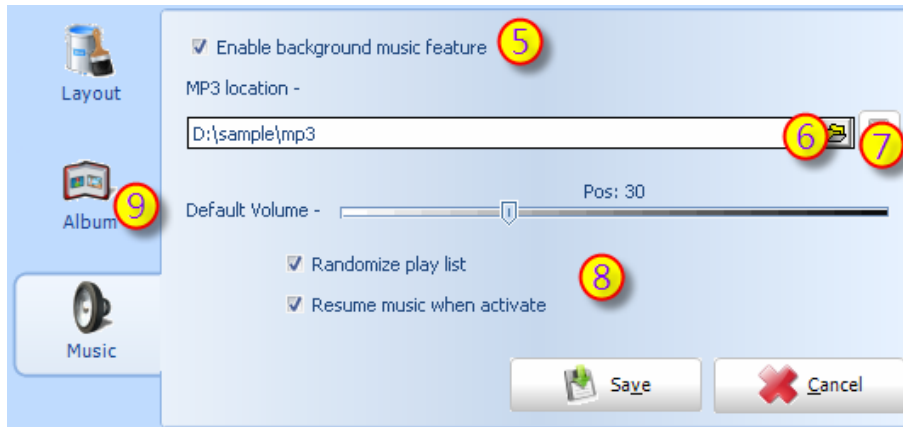

Step 1.

Select Screen Mode

Step 2.

Type in Weather URL

http://a.forecabox.com/get/29328

this is Denver @720x90

Step 3. If you enable news ticker, select a news category.
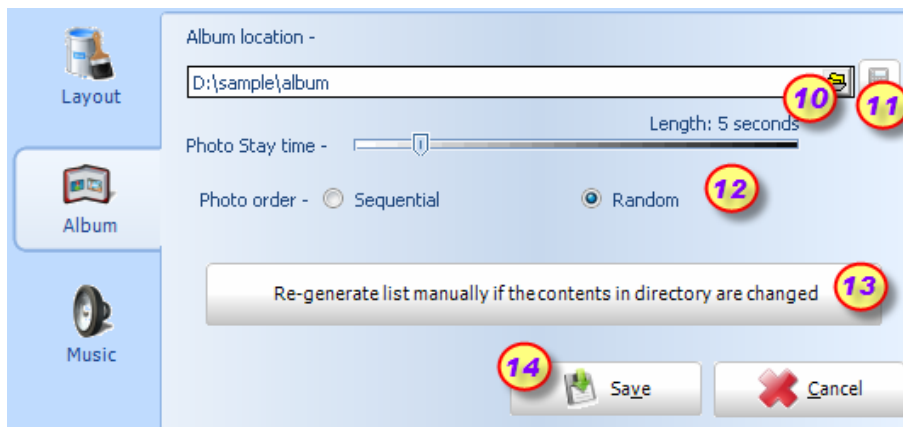
Step 4. Go to "Music" page.

Step 5. Enable/Disable background music feature (MP3 Only)

Step 6. Click here to browse and choose the MP3 folder location. (Ex. C:\sample\MP3)

Step 7. Click here to calculate the available MP3 files.

Step 8. Miscellaneous options of background music.

Step 9. Go to "Album" page.

Step 10. Click here to browse and choose the photo folder location. (Ex. C:\sample\album)

Step 11. Click here to calculate the available photo files

Step 12. Miscellaneous options of album

Step 13. Click this button to generate playlist

Step 14. Click on "Save" button to save settings and close this window.

Wait for the DPF function to activate after the minutes that you specified.